

finch: numerous. Red Crossbills: 14 GCC; 15 ICC. White-winged Crossbill: 2 WGCC; 2 Ithaca Feb. 2; 2 Six Mile Creek. Rufous-sided Towhee: CC's: 2 Cent Cay, 2 E, 1 I.

Savannah Sparrow: CC's: 2 Cent Cay, 2 G. Dark-eyed Junco: Plentiful. Tree Sparrow: Plentiful. Chipping Sparrow: CC's: 2 Cent Cay, 1 E. Field Sparrow: CC's: 4 Cent Cay, 3 E, 1 G, 7 I, 2 M; 1 Newark late Dec. White-crowned Sparrow: CC's: 2 Cent Cay, 8 I, 2 M. White-throated Sparrow: CC's: 40 Cent Cay, 31 E, 80 G, 108 I, 42 M, 119 WG. Fox Sparrow: 1 Cent Cay CC. Swamp Sparrow: CC's: 2 G, 9 I, 11 WG; 1 Niles Dec. 13; 1 Newark late Dec.; 2 Ithaca Jan. 2. Song Sparrow: CC's: 39 Cent Cay, 16 E, 66 G, 61 I, 70 M, 27 WG. Lapland Longspur: CC's: 2 G, 2 I, 1 M; 2 Elmira Dec. 4; 1 Clifton Springs Jan. 25; 7 King Ferry Jan.; 1 Sheldrake Feb. 1; 35 Penn Yan. Snow Bunting: reported on all CC's and from Loon L. Steuben Co., Clifton Springs, Newark, Slaterville.

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REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

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In spite of January with its almost month-long spell of severe weather, the winter, on average, was fairly mild. Several daily low temperature records were broken and there were frequent heavy snowfalls in January but December was warmer than normal and February was really mild, sometimes truly balmy. A warm February is still February so the melting of the heavy snow cover, while rapid, was interrupted enough to keep severe flooding to a minimum.

It was not a particularly good winter for raptors, though Red-tailed Hawks and Am. Kestrels were at least up to normal and accipiters seem to increase a little each year. Speaking of accipiters, Goshawks would have been reckoned rarities in this Region 20 years ago but now outnumber Cooper's Hawks and approach Sharp-shins in reports received, although that is at least partly because they are more conspicuous. The three Marsh Hawk reports are encouraging.

One report of an apparently winter-killed Carolina Wren appeared in a Binghamton newspaper during January but two birds were still coming to a feeder in Vestal at the end of the month. A less equivocal estimate of the effect on the species of our first prolonged severe winter weather in three or four years will have to wait until breeding season. There was no evidence of a significant effect on Tufted Titmice or Mockingbirds and a Brown Thrasher made it thru February.

Wintering White-throated Sparrows and Dark-eyed Juncos seemed particularly numerous and Am. Robins above normal, but after early January the only pre-migration Icterids were Brown-headed Cowbirds and they were none too numerous. Of the winter finches only Evening Grosbeaks and Common Redpolls appeared in numbers but all the reasonably possible species were reported.

The warm February temperatures brought a real rush of Canada Geese during the last few days of the month and several exclamations about "the largest flock, ever." Of the small land birds only Red-winged Blackbirds had responded in real numbers by the end of the period but most of the normally early migrants had been reported.

The Bald Eagles at Cannonsville Reservoir can't properly be classed as rarities since they are reported there more years than not, but in this region a Gray Catbird and a Yellow-rumped Warbler in winter and Red-bellied Woodpeckers at any season can be so classified.

Special abbreviations: BCC—Binghamton Christmas Count, Dec. 28; GCC—Greene Christmas Count (unpublished), Dec. 26; OCC—Oneonta Christmas Count, Dec. 20; TCC—Tioga County (Owego) Christmas Count, Jan. 1.

Observers: Cutler and Jeanette Baldwin, Bill Bartlett, L. Barnhart, Reynolds Bennett, Ann Casselberry, Mildred Clark, Warren and Gail Corderman, Anna and Marilyn Davis, Warren and Louise Dean, Robert Dirig, Mary Dobinsky, Sadie Dorber, Chris Frye, Clare Gottschall, Shirley Hartman, Elva Hawken, Dorothy House, Don Huntington, Paul Kalka, Eugene and Cindy Kirch, Margaret Layton, Florence Linaberry, M. and L. McDowell, Betty McVinney, Harriet Marsi, Rick Marsi, John New, Robert and Rita Pantle, Booth Perkins, H. Robison, Gail Rubin, Robert and Jeanne Saunders, Jerry Shannon, Robert and Mary Sheffield, E. and B. Vermilya, Elizabeth Washburn, Don Weber, Ruth and Sally White, Evelyn Williams and Kathryn Wilson.

LOONS—DUCKS: Pied-billed Grebe: 1 Nichols Jan. 18. Great Blue Heron: 1 BCC; 1 Whitney Point Dec. 7; Owego in early Jan. Canada Goose: 75 TCC; 1 Binghamton Jan. 13; 7 Harpursville Jan. 18; migrants Feb. 17 and unusually large numbers migrating Feb. 26 to 29. Snow Goose: 1 Walton Jan. 17 (SH). Mallard: 10 OCC; 3 GCC; 119 BCC; 1 TCC; 200 or more wintering at Sherburne Nature Center. Black Duck: 2 OCC; 2 GCC; 65 BCC; 1 TCC; 60 at Sherburne. Pintail: Owego Dec. 11; 1 Cannonsville Reservoir Feb. 8. Am. Wigeon: Owego Dec. 16. Wood Duck: 1 Sherburne Jan. 17. Redhead: 6 Cannonsville Reservoir Feb. 8. Ring-necked Duck: 3 TCC. Canvasback: 1 Reflection Bay, near Oneonta, Dec. 6; 1 Whitney Point Dec. 7; 10 Cannonsville Reservoir Feb. 8; Feb. 28 Whitney Point. Common Goldeneye: 2 BCC; 22 Waterfowl Census total for Region. Bufflehead: 1 OCC. White-winged Scoter: 1 Cannonsville Reservoir Feb. 8. Common Merganser: 10 GCC; 1 TCC; 40 Whitney Point Dec. 14, best count for period.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Goshawk: 3 GCC; 1 TCC; 1 Choconut Center, north of Johnson City, Jan. 4 and 11; 1 Sherburne Jan. 15; Owego Jan. 19. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 2 GCC; 1 TCC; 7 other reports. Cooper's Hawk: 1 GCC; 3 other reports. Red-tailed Hawk: 1 OCC; 2 GCC; 3 BCC; 3 TCC; frequent reports all period. Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 TCC; no others. Rough-legged Hawk: 1 OCC; 1 BCC; 1 Oneonta Jan. 31; the only reports. Bald Eagle: 1 to 3 around Cannonsville Reservoir all winter. Marsh Hawk: Jan. 8 Owego; 1 Oneonta Jan. 30; 1 Choconut Center Feb. 22, "a beautiful gray." Am. Kestrel: 4 OCC; 3 GCC; 12 BCC; 9 TCC. Ruffed Grouse: 2 GCC; 5 BCC. Ring-necked Pheasant: 1 GCC; 9 BCC. Turkey: 9 GCC; 25 or more Walton area Dec. 30; 4 E. Meredith Jan. 30; seen regularly at Tioga Co. Farm, 9 on Feb. 1. Killdeer: 2 BCC. Am. Woodcock: Feb. 20 near Binghamton. Herring Gull: 1 GCC; 21 BCC; 2 TCC. Ring-billed Gull: 1 BCC; 1 TCC.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Rock Dove: 548 BCC; 275 TCC. Mourning Dove: 38 OCC; 7 GCC; 95 BCC; 81 TCC. Screech Owl: 2 BCC; reports from 5 localities. Great Horned Owl: 1 OCC; 3 GCC; 20 BCC; 3 TCC. Barred Owl: 2 GCC; 1 BCC; nearly every night during Feb. near Binghamton. Saw-whet Owl: 1 Delhi Jan. 16 (HB, LBa). Belted Kingfisher: 1 OCC; 1 GCC; 8 BCC; 4 TCC. Common Flicker: 1 W. Davenport, near Oneonta, Dec. 28 (DH). Pileated Woodpecker: 2 GCC; 1 BCC. Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 BCC, an immature bird seen for at least a week after the census. **RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER**: 1 TCC; 2 in Candor area during Jan. (DW). Hairy Woodpecker: 33 OCC; 7 GCC; 25 BCC; 21 TCC. Downy Woodpecker: 38 OCC; 11 GCC; 70 BCC; 39 TCC.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Horned Lark: 50 BCC; 56 TCC. Blue Jay: 168 OCC; 150 GCC; 333 BCC; 224 TCC. Crow: 277 OCC; 300 GCC; 547 BCC; 394 TCC. Black-capped Chickadee: 437 OCC; 193 GCC; 508 BCC; 237 TCC. **BOREAL CHICKADEE**: 3 OCC; regular during Dec. in 2 Oneonta localities (BMcV, GR); 1 at Hamden, in Delaware Co., Feb. 3 (M, LMd). Tufted Titmouse: 27 BCC; 33 TCC; present thru Feb. White-breasted Nuthatch: 43 OCC; 7 GCC; 69 BCC; 42 TCC. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 8 OCC; 2 GCC; 3 BCC; 2 TCC. Brown Creeper: 5 OCC; 1 GCC; 12 BCC; 3 TCC. Winter Wren: 2 BCC;

Dec. 15 Owego. Carolina Wren: 4 BCC; 3 TCC; 1 found dead reported to Binghamton Press in mid-Jan.; 2 at Vestal at least thru Jan. 30; 1 at Delancey, in Delaware Co., Jan. 4. Mockingbird: 1 OCC; 14 GCC; 6 TCC; all winter at 3 Triple Cities localities and Delhi and in Jan. at Owego; 1 at Choconut Center looking over suet but not really eating it. GRAY CATBIRD: 1 Owego Jan. 4 (RB), good description and details. Brown Thrasher: 1 Delhi Jan. 27 and all winter (M, LMcD). Am. Robin: 5 OCC; 1 GCC; 3 BCC; 1 TCC; 6 Candor Jan. 18 and a dozen other winter reports until migrants Feb. 25. E. Bluebird: TCC, within count period; 1 Hancock Feb. 27. Golden-crowned Kinglet: 4 GCC; 17 BCC. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Dec. 11 Owego. Cedar Waxwing: 1 GCC; 25 TCC; very few reported. Northern Shrike: 2 GCC; 1 Jan. 4 Choconut Center caught a small bird that glanced off a window; 4 other reports. Starling: 915 OCC; 700 GCC; 8320 BCC; 1075 TCC.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER: 1 OCC (MD).

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: House Sparrow: 332 OCC; 300 GCC; 580 BCC; 714 TCC. E. Meadowlark: 2 GCC; 20 BCC; 6 TCC. Red-winged Blackbird: Dec. 27 and into Jan. Owego and a few earlier Dec. records, but then none until Feb. 13 and numerous migrants Feb. 21. Rusty Blackbird: 2 TCC. Common Grackle: 2 OCC; 3 TCC; then none until Feb. 21; only a few migrants before the end of Feb. Brown-headed Cowbird: 2 OCC; 2 BCC; 15 TCC; small numbers all winter. Cardinal: 42 OCC; 11 GCC; 122 BCC; 89 TCC. Evening Grosbeak: 1100 OCC; 200 GCC; 437 BCC; 415 TCC; plentiful, but not overwhelming, all period. Purple Finch: 10 OCC; 3 GCC; 31 BCC; small numbers all winter. House Finch: 78 BCC; regular at several Triple Cities feeders all winter, as has become usual; a single bird at Delhi Dec. 22 to Jan. 31 (LMcD); 1 on Dec. 8 and a pair regularly from Jan. 9 on at one Oneonta locality and 1 at another Jan. 31. Pine Grosbeak: 18 OCC; 12 TCC; other scattered reports thruout period. Common Redpoll: 175 GCC; 217 BCC; 63 TCC; first reported Dec. 17 Vestal; after Christmas seen everywhere, max. count 200 Sherburne Jan. 15. Pine Siskin: 10 OCC; 2 BCC; max. 16 Binghamton Jan. 1 but present all period. Am. Goldfinch: 5 OCC; 42 GCC; 198 BCC; 106 TCC. Red Crossbill: 8 Oneonta Dec. 13, the only report. White-winged Crossbill: 9 BCC; 80 or more in 2 flocks near Hartwick Jan. 31. Dark-eyed Junco: 86 OCC; 42 GCC; 253 BCC; 213 TCC. Tree Sparrow: 178 OCC; 170 GCC; 350 BCC; 213 TCC. Field Sparrow: 1 regularly at Owego during Dec. (W,LD). White-throated Sparrow: 6 OCC; 65 BCC; 16 TCC; wintering birds more common than usual. Fox Sparrow: 1 TCC; Feb. 28 Choconut Center. Swamp Sparrow: 6 OCC; 2 TCC; the only reports. Song Sparrow: 41 OCC; 2 GCC; 7 BCC; 12 TCC. Snow Bunting: 50 BCC; 1525 TCC; only 5 other reports, all late Dec. thru Jan.

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REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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For winter birding this past season, Region 5 birders were best advised to go to the coast—or better yet, to Corsica or Cozumel or Costa Rica—any place but central New York. Lord, it was a dull, dull, deadly dull winter for birds, a season made worse by the severe cold (January was 9.1° F (5° C) colder than average) and deep snow (18-24 inches (.46-.61 m) of persistent ground snow thru January) that began with the local Christmas Counts and didn't let up until mid-February. The local graybeards described it as "an old-fashioned winter" and they can have it. The severe icing over of the rivers and lakes forced out most of the December-early January waterfowl, particularly the less hardy dabblers; the lack of mice coupled with persistent deep snow squeezed out the residue of raptors that had tried